

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 CIAE-00

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE QUITO 6008

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGIN EC

SUBJECT: NEW MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES PREDICTS REVISION
OF DECISION 24

1. APPOINTMENT OF DANILO CARRERA AS NEW MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES WAS ANNOUNCED AUGUST 14. CARRERA, 36 YEARS OLD, ATTENDED HIGH SCHOOL IN NEW YORK AND ALSO GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON. HE WORKED FOR THE FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK IN GUAYAQUIL UNTIL HIS APPOINTMENT IN 1973 AS MANAGER OF THE CENTRAL BANK IN GUAYAQUIL, A POSITION IN WHICH HE BECAME KNOWN AS A DYNAMIC INNOVATOR.

2. "DECISION 24", CARRERA SAID IN HIS INAUGURAL STATEMENTS REPORTED IN THE PRESS ON AUGUST 15, "IS AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT AND FOR THAT REASON SHOULD BE OBEYED. BUT IS IS NECESSARY TO FIND A RATIONALIZATION THAT WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN BENEFITS FROM DECISION 24 FOR THE COUNTRY." WHEN ASKED HIS OPINION OF THE ATTITUDE OF ECUADOREAN FIRMS VIS-A-VIS THE SECTORAL PROGRAMS NOW TAKING PLACE IN LIMA, THE NEW MINISTER SAID: "THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS GOING TO BE INVITED TO CONVERSE WITH THE PUBLIC SECTOR.

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THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS VERY IMPORTANT

AND THIS WILL BE AN OPEN-DOOR MINISTRY. THE FUNDAMENTAL GOAL IS TO MAKE THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE INTO THE MOST EFFICIENT ORGANISM IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS."

3.COMMENT: THE NOMINATION OF DANILO CARRERA FOLLOWS UPON A WAVE OF CRITICISMS FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR (BEING REPORTED BY AIRGRAM) RE, INTER ALIA, DECISION 24 AND SECTORAL ASSIGNMENT UNDER THE ANDEAN PACT. HIS APPOINTMENT SEEMS TO BE ANOTHER SIGN THAT THE GOE INTENDS TO LIBERALIZE SOMEWHAT ITS TREATMENT OF FOREIGN FIRMS AND ECUADOR'S PRIVATE SECTOR.
BREWSTER

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